



Tests conducted in TB clinics

Chest X-ray

This is carried out to check if you have TB of the lung. It may be repeated later to check that your treatment is working.

Sputum/ phlegm test

You may be asked to provide sputum samples to check if you have TB in your lungs. The test may be repeated later to check that your treatment is working.

Blood tests

Blood tests can show if you are anaemic or have an infection in your body. Repeating these tests after start of treatment can tell us if the infection is going away.

Other tests are carried out to tell us how your liver and kidneys are working before and during treatment. These tests are important because some of your medicines can affect your liver and kidney function.

Tests for other infections

We offer a HIV test to everyone attending a TB clinic. HIV damages the body's defence systems, so TB can take hold more easily. There is good treatment for HIV that can improve your health.

Tests for other infections

We may also test you for hepatitis B and hepatitis C infections. These infections can change how your liver works and affect your TB treatment. If your test is positive you may be referred to a specialist team.

Confidentiality

The results of all your tests will be treated in confidence and information will only be shared with healthcare professionals who are directly involved in your care.

Further information

HIV

NAHIP: www.nahip.org.uk

Do It Right:

www.doitright.uk.com

THT: www.tht.org.uk

TB

NKS TB:

www.hpa.org.uk/tbknowledge

TB Alert: www.tbalert.org

Other useful sites

NHS choices: www.nhs.uk

Health Protection Agency:

www.hpa.org.uk